Paris bid for the 2008 Summer Olympics

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Paris 2008 was an unsuccessful bid for the 2008 Summer Olympics by the city of Paris and the French Olympic Committee. Paris previously hosted the 1900 Summer Olympics and the 1924 Summer Olympics.[3] The bid made it to the final IOC vote, with Osaka being eliminated in the first round, but gained only 18 votes to Istanbul's 9, Toronto's 22 and Beijing's 56.[4][5]

Bids for the 2008 Summer Olympics

Overview	
Games of the XXIX Olympiad	
Winner: Beijing	
Runner-up: Toronto	
Shortlist: **Paris** · Istanbul · Osaka	
Details	
City	Paris, France
NOC	French Olympic Committee
Previous Games hosted	
1900 Summer Olympics, 1924 Summer Olympics[1]	
Previously bid in 1992[2]	
Decision	
Result	Third place

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Bid process [edit source]

Application [edit source]

The French bid was first launched in 1998 after Jacques Chirac confirmed Paris' application.[6] It was reported that up to 80% of the French population supported hosting the Games.[7] The bid also had the support of the City of Paris, the Ile-de-France region, the French government and the French Olympic Committee.[8] The Paris bid was judged to have "one of the most powerful ... public rail transport systems". The bid's proposed extensions and improvements "would fit in particularly well ... to the proposed Games concept."[9]

Table entries in bold denote criteria where the Paris bid was the highest rated of all the candidate cities

Paris 2008 application evaluation[10]

Criterion	Minimum grade	Maximum grade
Government support and public opinion	6.7	6.7
General infrastructure	**7.6**	**8.5**
Sports infrastructure	7.2	8.5
Olympic Village	7.2	8.7
Environmental impact	7.0	8.0
Accommodation	**10.0**	**10.0**
Transport links	**7.7**	**9.0**
Security	7.0	8.4
Experience	**8.5**	**9.5**
Games Concept	**8.0**	**9.0**

Candidacy [edit source]

Paris was accepted as a candidate city in August 2000.[11] In March 2001, the IOC Evaluation Commission travelled to Paris to assess the French bid.[12]

The host of the 2008 Games was chosen at the 112th IOC Session on 13 July 2001 in Moscow.[13] Results from the two rounds of voting were as follows:[14]

2008 Host City Election — ballot results

City	Country (NOC)	Round 1	Round 2
Beijing	China	**44**	**56**
Toronto	Canada	20	22
Paris	France	15	18
Istanbul	Turkey	17	9
Osaka	Japan	6	—

Venues [edit source]

According to organisers, more than 60% of the needed venues already existed in Paris.[15][16]

Sporting venues [edit source]

39 competition venues were planned. In Paris, these included:[17] Venues in *italics* were planned to be built, should the bid be successful.[18]

- Stade de France for athletics and football.
- *La Courneuve* for *shooting*.
- *Aubervilliers velodrome* for *track cycling*.
- *Puiseux-en-France Baseball and Softball centre* for *baseball* and *softball*.
- Boulevard des Sports for badminton, basketball, handball, gymnastics and swimming.
- Grand Palais for fencing.
- *Champs de Mars* for *beach volleyball*.
- *Esplanade des Invalides* for the *pentathlon*, *dressage and show jumping*.
- Bois de Boulogne:
  - Longchamp and Auteuil racecourses for 3-day equestrian events.
  - *Longchamp tracks* for *road cycling*.
  - *Château de la Muette* lawns for *triathlon*.
  - *Château de Bagatelle* lawns for *archery*.
- *Parc André Citroën* volleyball hall for *volleyball*.
- *Parc de Saint-Cloud* for *mountain biking*.
- Stade Jean-Bouin for hockey.
- Parc des Princes stadium for football.
- Stade Roland Garros for tennis.
- Stade Pierre de Coubertin for volleyball and taekwondo.
- Palais des Sports for weightlifting.
- ParisExpo for boxing and wrestling
- Vaires-sur-Marne basin for rowing and canoeing and kayaking.
- Carpentier Hall for table tennis.
- Paris-Bercy Multisports Complex for judo and volleyball.
- *Créteil Olympic pool* for *water polo*.
- Stade Sébastien Charléty for football.
- Stade Pershing for baseball.

Olympic Village [edit source]

The planned Olympic Village had a total capacity of 17,300 beds but was criticised in the Candidate City report for having some planning issues.[19]

Bid legacy [edit source]

After the 2001 IOC vote in Moscow, French President Jacques Chirac said that although he regretted that Paris' bid had failed, he had not given up hope for a future Olympic bid.[20] The chief executive of the Paris 2012 bid, Philippe Baudillon, later said that the 2008 bid was too "technical and French".[21] After bidding for the 2012 Summer Olympics and losing out to London, in 2017 Paris bid for and was awarded the 2024 Summer Olympics.[22]

See also [edit source]

- France at the Olympics

Olympics portal *France portal*

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v · t	France bids for the Olympic Games	[hide]
Summer	Lille	2004[1]
	Lyon	1920 · 1968
	Paris	*1900* · *1924* · 1992 · **2008** · 2012 · *2024*
Winter	Other	*Chamonix 1924* · *Grenoble 1968* · *Albertville 1992* · Annecy 2018

[1] Applicant city. *italics* - Successful bids

Categories: 2008 Summer Olympics bids | Summer Olympics in Paris | Olympic Games bids by France

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